

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Divisional Patent Application of : Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
William E. Coville, *et al.* :  
: Anticipated Class: 210  
Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned : Anticipated Subclass: 650  
:   
Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
:   
Filed: Herewith :   
:   
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR : Attorney Docket  
DIRECTLY SAMPLING A FLUID FOR : No. 10060-1U2  
MICROFILTRATION

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of the above application being transmitted herewith, please amend the application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), without prejudice, as follows:

**In the specification:**

Please amend the specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)(2) as follows:

At page 1, please delete the Cross-Reference to Related Application Section and replace it with the following new Cross-Reference to Related Application section as shown below:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a divisional application of co-pending Application No. 09/580,987 filed May 30, 2000, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIRECTLY SAMPLING A FLUID FOR MICROFILTRATION", which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/136,668, filed May 28, 1999. The entire disclosures of U.S. Application No. 60/136,668 and U.S. Application No. 09/580,987 as filed are incorporated herein by reference.--.

**In the claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-5 and 19-23 without prejudice.

**REMARKS**

Claims 6-18 are pending in the above-identified divisional application.

Claims 1-5 and 19-23 have been cancelled without prejudice. The subject matter of those claims was prosecuted in the parent application. The specification has been amended to correct the Cross-Reference to Related Application section.

In the parent application, the Examiner restricted the claims into the following Groups: Group I, including claims 1-5 and 19-23 drawn to a filtration cell having membrane, and Group II, including claims 6-18 drawn to a process for transferring fluid to be filtered.

Claims 6-18 represent the non-elected claims from the parent Application No. 09/580,987. Claims 1-5 and 19-23 were prosecuted and allowed in the parent application. No new matter has been added by the above amendments.

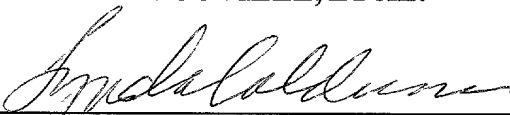
Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and an early examination and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**WILLIAM E. COVILLE, ET AL.**

2/6/02  
(Date)

By:



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Enclosures

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## --CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional application of co-pending Application No. 09/580,987 filed May 30, 2000, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIRECTLY SAMPLING A FLUID FOR MICROFILTRATION", which [This application] claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/136,668, filed May 28, 1999. The entire disclosures of U.S. Application No. 60/136,668 and U.S. Application No. 09/580,987 as filed are incorporated herein by reference.--.